

POLICY OF STATE OF DELAWARE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION	POLICY NUMBER G-12	PAGE NUMBER 1 OF 1
	RELATED NCCHC/ACA STANDARDS: P-G-12/4-4350 (IMPORTANT)	
CHAPTER: 11 HEALTH SERVICES	SUBJECT: CARE FOR THE TERMINALLY ILL	
APPROVED BY THE COMMISSIONER:		
EFFECTIVE DATE: 11-19-07		

PURPOSE:

To address the needs of the terminally ill patient to include pain management and early release when possible.

POLICY:

1. Terminally ill inmates are provided palliative treatment focused on symptom control and quality of life issues, rather than attempting to cure a condition. Treatment will include, but not be limited to, appropriate and adequate pain management.
2. Whenever possible, terminally ill inmates are offered referral to a Hospice Care Program.
3. When an individual condition may make the patient eligible for a sentence modification or parole based on their clinical status, the responsible physician will inform Office of Health Services of diagnosis, prognosis, special needs, current treatment plan and any other considerations to assure eligibility for one of the above.
4. DOC will maintain and monitor appropriate contracts for hospice care according to community standards.

References:

National Commission on Correctional Health Care: Standards for Health Services in Jails, 2003, J-G-12